

Applicant : Donald R. Mapes, et al.
Serial No. : 10/657,755
Filed : September 9, 2003
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Attorney's Docket No.: 14920.0015 C1

REMARKS

Claims 1-13, 15, 22 and 28-43 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 14, 17-18, 21, 24 and 25 have been amended. New claims 44-51 have been added. Claims 1-51 are pending. All amendments find their support throughout the specification. No new matter has been added. Applicants reserve the right to file continuation or divisional applications on the canceled subject matter.

Election of species

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone interview of March 12, 2007 and hereby affirm the election of claims 1-27 (Species A) for prosecution, without traverse.

Allowable subject matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 14, 16, 19, 20 and 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants continue to disagree with the rejections expressed in the Office Action, but in the interest of advancing prosecution, applicants have amended claim 14 to be rewritten in independent form. Claims 16, 19, 20 and 23 depend from independent claim 14. Applicants respectfully request allowance of these claims.

New claims

New claims 44-51 have been added. Claims 44-51 depend from claim 14, which has been deemed allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that all new claims 44-51 are patentable over the references of record.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Should any fees be required by the present Amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account **19-4293**.

Respectfully submitted,

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